

# Family History Happenings

LVFSL

June 2020

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Las Vegas FamilySearch Library  
Hours: Closed until further notice



## Directors' Message by Kenneth Openshaw

### We'll Be Back



A few days ago, Charlotte and I were obligated, as Directors, to break our quarantine and visit the FamilySearch Library. We parked on Ninth Street and for the first time since joining the Library ours was the only car on the street. As we entered the front door, we were greeted by that wonderful spirit that fills the Library. It was like coming home. But more impressive, we knew we were not alone. It was comforting to realize that even though we are quarantined, the Library still welcome's those from the other side.

As I sat for a few minutes at the cluster of tables on the main floor, I took a moment, as I often do, and I let my mind wander. I wondered if those on the other side would be disappointed that Charlotte and I would only be there for a few minutes and that our visit was for a non-family history errand. Did they understand why we were there? Was our visit going to be a disappointing tease when we leave after just a few minutes without being joined by any of our staff or patrons? With those thoughts in my mind, I couldn't help myself. I silently voiced, "I'm sorry. But, we will be back."

The Library will re-open. We are not sure of when, but we know that as soon as we can assure the safety of staff and patrons we will open the doors to the world. The activity levels that we were experiencing before the closure (which by the way were four times the levels of prior years) will return. I have every confidence in that and I know that those on the other side, who are waiting for our assistance, will not be disappointed.

Being at home has given many of us the time to get more involved In Family History. The Church reports that compared to prior months, many more of us are entering FamilySearch; adding ancestors and memories; and indexing. In

fact, in April, more than 57.2 million records were indexed and added to the FamilySearch database. This is more than double the average monthly indexing level of 2019. Keep it up! We're anxiously looking forward to being in the Library with you soon.

### HINT!



Exploring FamilySearch can be a lot of fun and helpful to your family history. A great place to start is at the very bottom of any page. There you will find a list of interactive keys. Click on these and you will be taken to interesting information; access to great apps, programs and sites; entrance to a FamilySearch Blog with hundreds of great topics and an exchange of useful ideas and many more helpful and enjoyable links. You can even change the FamilySearch language you are using. Try it! You'll like it!!

### World Wide Church

English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish and Danish are all languages that are read (and to varying degrees spoken) by Consultants at the FamilySearch Library. If you would like assistance in your native language, just call in advance to confirm that your language Consultant is available when you want to attend.

### Temporary Closure

As part of the Church's effort to minimize the effects of the COVID-19 virus, the FamilySearch Library is temporarily closed until further notice. This includes all scheduled groups, activities and events at the Library as well as general patronage. **Consultants will be available by telephone.** If you have need of assistance with your family history, call 702-382-9695, leave your name and telephone number on the answering system and a Consultant will call you back. Thank you for your patience during this temporary closure.

## CLEAR THE CLUTTER IN THE TREE

by Linda Coble



During the mandatory shelter-in-place we've been going through, a lot of us have been clutter clearing bookcases, closets, kitchen cabinets and the garage. Perhaps you've also been doing the same thing I have, standardizing at every opportunity when using the Family Search website. It's my understanding that standardizing enables the system to improve searches when we use their standard format. It's a small thing we can do in bite size pieces, but it is so important that recently a new box has appeared at the top of the page when I sign in. We are asked to fix place names. Perhaps it's because I was a legal secretary for over two decades, I always do that. It only takes a minute and yet it is such an important step.

### New Volunteer Opportunity

Help fix place-names. Even a few minutes will make a difference.

Try It

### "Quote"

"While worshipping in the temple is presently not possible, I invite you to increase your participation in family history, including family history research and indexing. I promise that as you increase your time in temple and family history work, you will increase and improve your ability to hear Him."

President Russell M. Nelson, April 2020



## FAMILY SEARCH BLOG

by Lee Nishimoto

A great site with lots of resources and activities for family history is [familysearch.org/blog](https://familysearch.org/blog). This blog site has new articles every month. There are articles and activities for all ages. This month there are some fascinating subjects

These are 3 of the 7 new topics for May.



### How to Find Russian Military Records from World War II

World War II, also referred to as the Great Patriotic War in Russia, began in 1941 and ended in 1945. Some argue...

May 13, 2020 - Amie Tennant



### FamilySearch Updates Enhance your Experience

FamilySearch is proud to have the world's largest online family tree and thrilled to provide free family history experiences to millions. In...

May 5, 2020 - FamilySearch



### New Records on FamilySearch from April 2020

FamilySearch expanded its free online archives in April of 2020 with almost 57.2 million new indexed family history records from all over...

May 6, 2020 - FamilySearch

The [Russian Military Records](#) may be of interest to those with Russian ancestors and those who like military history.

The [FamilySearch Updates](#) shows the latest changes to FamilySearch. The new enhancements give the researcher more helpful tools to

use in family history and know what's happening and how to use it.

The [New Records on FamilySearch for April](#) is a list of records indexed and now searchable. This list is massively international. "FamilySearch expanded its free online archives in April of 2020 with almost 57.2 million new indexed family history records from all over the world." Scanning records has been slowed by the covid-19 problem, but indexing by volunteers can and has continued from homes around the world. Browse the list and you will be amazed.

With so much time at home try some indexing. Millions more records will be searchable if more people do just a little indexing. Stay safe and Good Hunting.